

The Old Paths

"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." -Jeremiah 6:16

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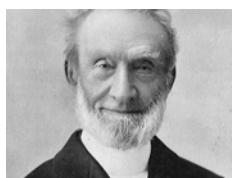
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The Apostolic Whitefield!



The name George Whitefield brings some recognition but at that very little. No schools, churches, organizations are named after him. Yet in heaven this man is well known! For he was a humble servant amongst men but a giant with God. By the age of 21 he was the most well known preacher in all of England, but by the age of 22, He was the most hated. He truly is of those "of whom the world was not worthy" and he was treated thus by the world. George Whitefield was born in Gloucester in 1714. At eighteen he entered Pembroke College, Oxford, and soon became a member of a religious group that included John Wesley and Charles Wesley. The group became known as the Holy Club or the Oxford Methodists.

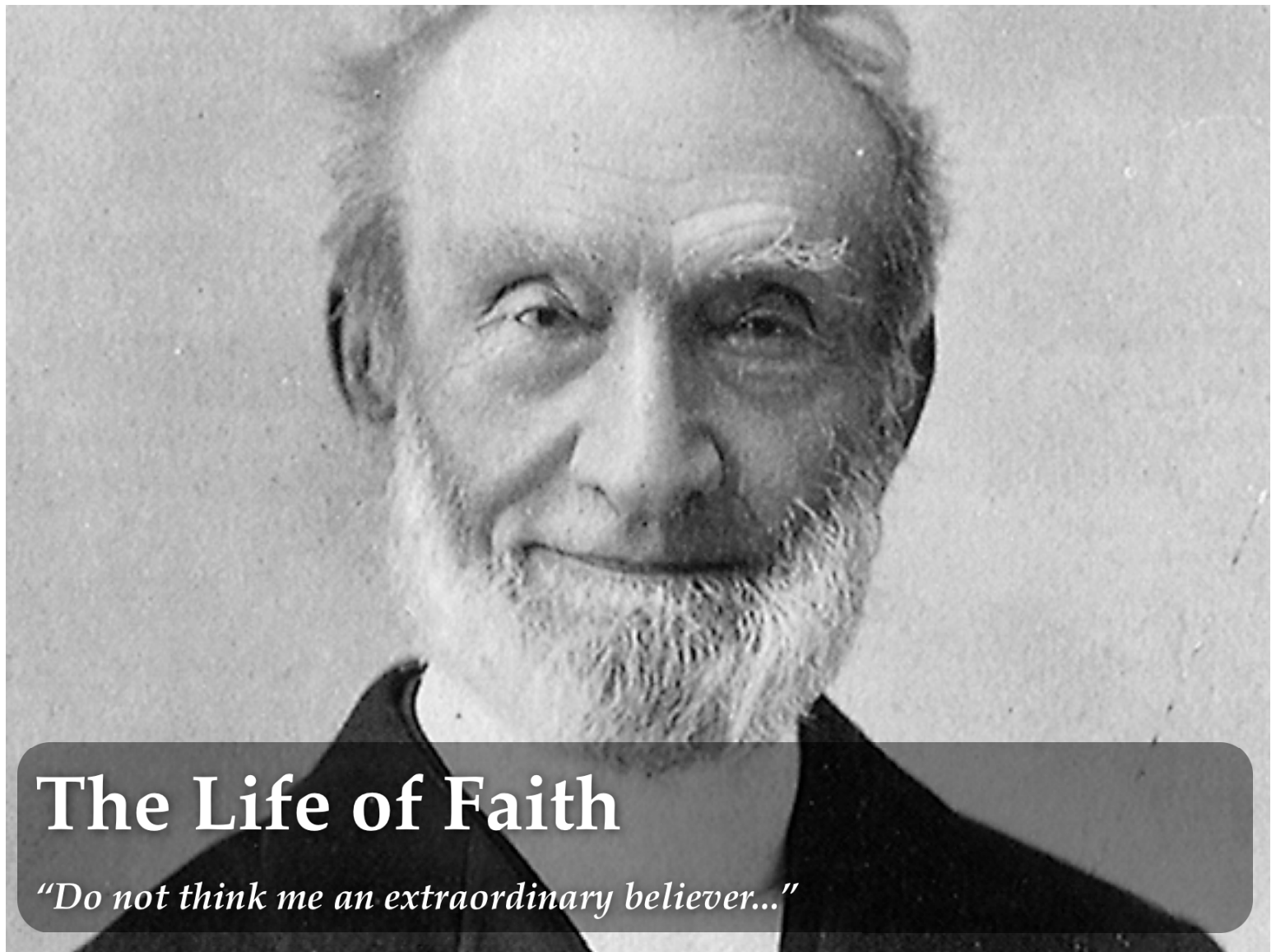
Whitefield's devotional practice as a youth would be to read a passage of the Bible in English, then in Greek, and then read Matthew Henry's commentary. He would pray over each line he read out of these three books until he received it and understood it and it became a part of him. He returned to Gloucester and during this one year of ministry at the age of 21 the nation of England was stirred and was in an uproar. News spread of his preaching and 1000's came to hear! "Ye must be born again." was the message that was being trumpeted. When Charles Wesley returned from the mission field he declared, "the whole nation is in an uproar." Another said, "All London and the whole nation ring of the great things of God done by his ministry." C.H. Spurgeon said: "It was a brave day for England when Whitefield began field preaching." With such preaching as this no wonder the nation was stirred: "You must be converted, or be damned, and that is plain English, but not plainer than my Master made us of, 'He that believeth not, shall be damned.' I did not speak that word strong enough that says, 'He that believeth not shall be damned'; that is the language of our Lord; and it is said of one of the primitive preachers, that used to speak the word damned so that it struck all his auditory."

With the statement of "Oh for another Whitefield!" Jesse Morrell at an open-air preach himself responded: "First, let a man so hunger and thirst after righteousness, that he'd be willing to almost fast and pray himself to death, as Whitefield did. Then, let a man be willing to be thought of as a fool by his own household, and a legalist by his own peers, as

Whitefield was. Then, let a man be willing to preach the true gospel, so clear and so forcefully, that the religious world will not be able to tolerate him, but will force him to preach in the streets instead of the Churches, as Whitefield was. Then, let a man be willing to endure spittings, stonings, beatings, and mobs, all with the love of Christ burning in his heart, as Whitefield did. Then, if a man is willing to preach 40 hours a week, until he often vomits blood, being up early praying, and up late traveling, ONLY THEN, will we have another Whitefield." Whitefield preached to Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Catholics, Quakers, and Moravians. He was the first man to so clearly cut across all denomination barriers by preaching the simple truth of the gospel. Whitefield preached more than 18,000 sermons between 1736 and 1770. That is more than 10 sermons a week over a period of 34 years.

He preached to crowds of 30,000 to 78,000 and doing this with no voice amplification of any kind. Whitefield would preach until he literally coughed up blood and with the warnings of doctors he continued on! He lived in light of eternity continually and was used of God in this measure.

Greg Gordon - Currently attending Calvary Chapel Bible College in Canada. Founded the ministry of SermonIndex.net and has continued to run it for the last 4 years to date. "



The Life of Faith

"Do not think me an extraordinary believer..."

"I have never been permitted to doubt during the last sixty-nine years that my sins are forgiven, that I am a child of God, that I am beloved of God, and that I shall be finally saved; because I am enabled, by the grace of God, to exercise faith upon the word of God, and believe what God says in those passages which settle these matters (1 John v. 1-- Gal. iii. 26-- Acts x. 43-- Romans x. 9, 10-- John iii. 16, etc.)..."

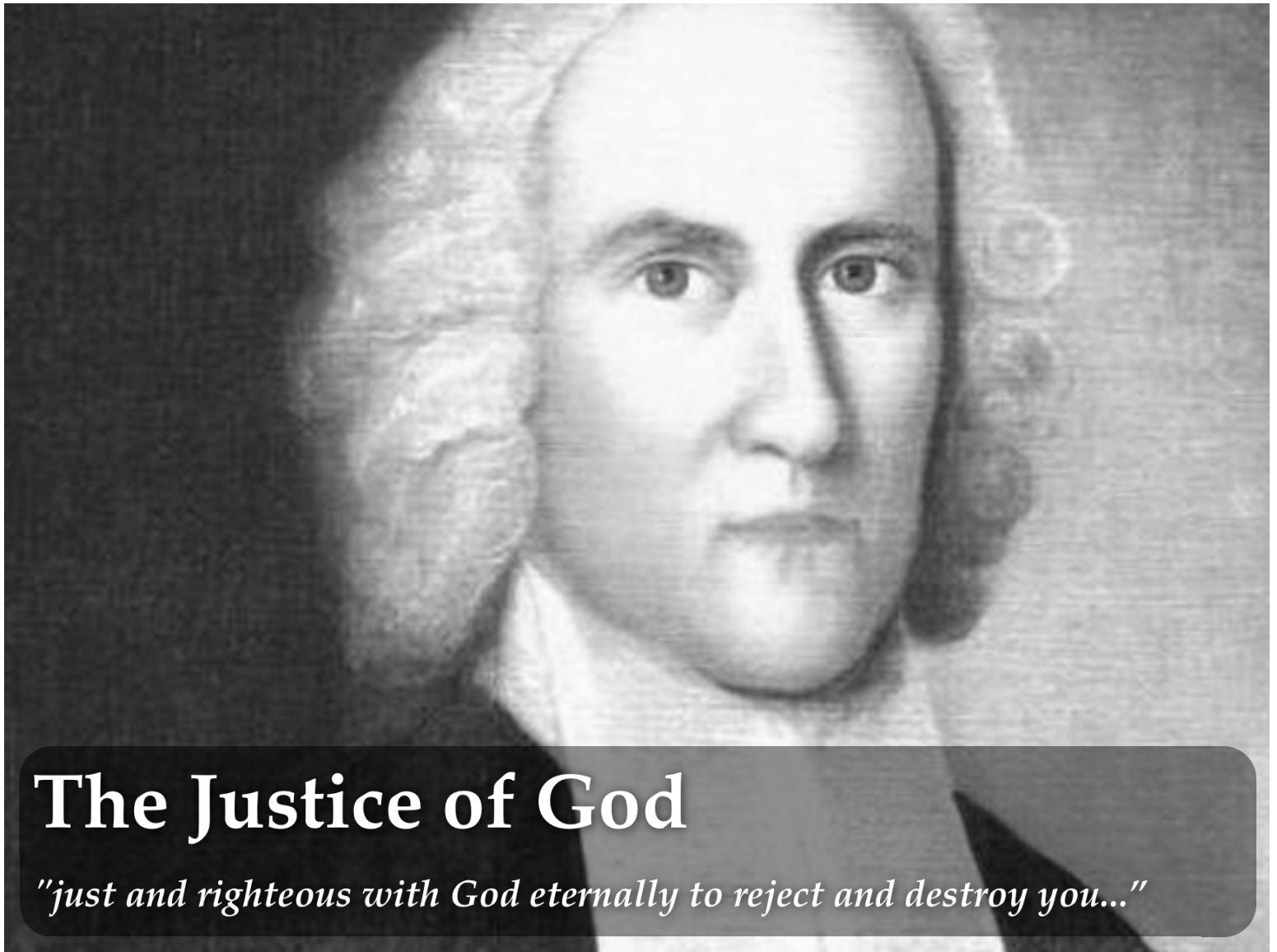
"Further, when sometimes all has been dark, exceedingly dark, with reference to my service among the saints, judging from natural appearances; yea, when I should have been overwhelmed indeed in grief and despair, had I looked at things after the outward appearance; at such times I have sought to encourage myself in God, by laying hold in faith on His mighty power, His unchangeable love, and His infinite wisdom, and I have said to myself: God is able and willing to deliver me, if it be good for me; for it is written: 'He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?' Roman viii. 32. This, this it was which, being believed by me

through grace, kept my soul in peace.--

"And lastly, once more, let not Satan deceive you in making you think that you could not have the same faith but that it is only for persons who are situated as I am. When I lose such a thing as a key, I ask the Lord to direct me to it, and I look for an answer to my prayer; when a person with whom I have made an appointment does not come, according to the fixed time, and I begin to be inconvenienced by it, I ask the Lord to be pleased to hasten him to me and I look for an answer; when I do not understand a passage of the word of God, I lift up my heart to the Lord, that He would be pleased, by His Holy Spirit to instruct me, and I expect to be taught, though I do not fix the time when, and the manner how it should be; when I am going to minister in the Word, I seek help from the Lord, and while I, in the consciousness of natural inability as well as utter unworthiness begin this His service, I am not cast down, but of good cheer, because I look for His assistance, and believe that He, for His dear Son's sake will help me. And thus in other of my temporal

and spiritual concerns I pray to the Lord, and expect an answer to my requests; and may not you do the same, dear believing reader? Oh! I beseech you, do not think me an extraordinary believer, having privileges above other of God's dear children, which they cannot have; nor look on my way of acting as something that would not do for other believers. Make but trial! Do but stand still in the hour of trial, and you will see the help of God, if you trust in Him. But there is so often a forsaking the ways of the Lord in the hour of trial, and thus the food of faith, the means whereby our faith may be increased, is lost. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

George Muller (1805-1898) - A Christian who by faith ran an orphanage of over 10,000 children. Had over 1 million direct answers to prayer. Known as the apostle of faith.



The Justice of God

"just and righteous with God eternally to reject and destroy you..."

In the improvement of this doctrine, I would chiefly direct myself to sinners who are afraid of damnation, in a use of conviction. This may be matter of conviction to you, that it would be just and righteous with God eternally to reject and destroy you. This is what you are in danger of. You who are a Christless sinner are a poor condemned creature: God's wrath still abides upon you; and the sentence of condemnation lies upon you. You are in God's hands, and it is uncertain what he will do with you

. You are afraid what will become of you. You are afraid that it will be your portion to suffer eternal burnings; and your fears are not without grounds; you have reason to tremble every moment. But be you never so much afraid of it, let eternal damnation be never so dreadful, yet it is just. God may nevertheless do it, and be righteous, and holy, and glorious. Though eternal damnation be what you cannot bear, and how much soever your heart shrinks at the thought of it, yet God's justice may be glorious in it. The dreadfulness of the thing on your part, and the greatness of your dread of it, do not

render it the less righteous on God's part. If you think otherwise, it is a sign that you do not see yourself, that you are not sensible what sin is, nor how much of it you have been guilty of. Therefore for your conviction, be directed,

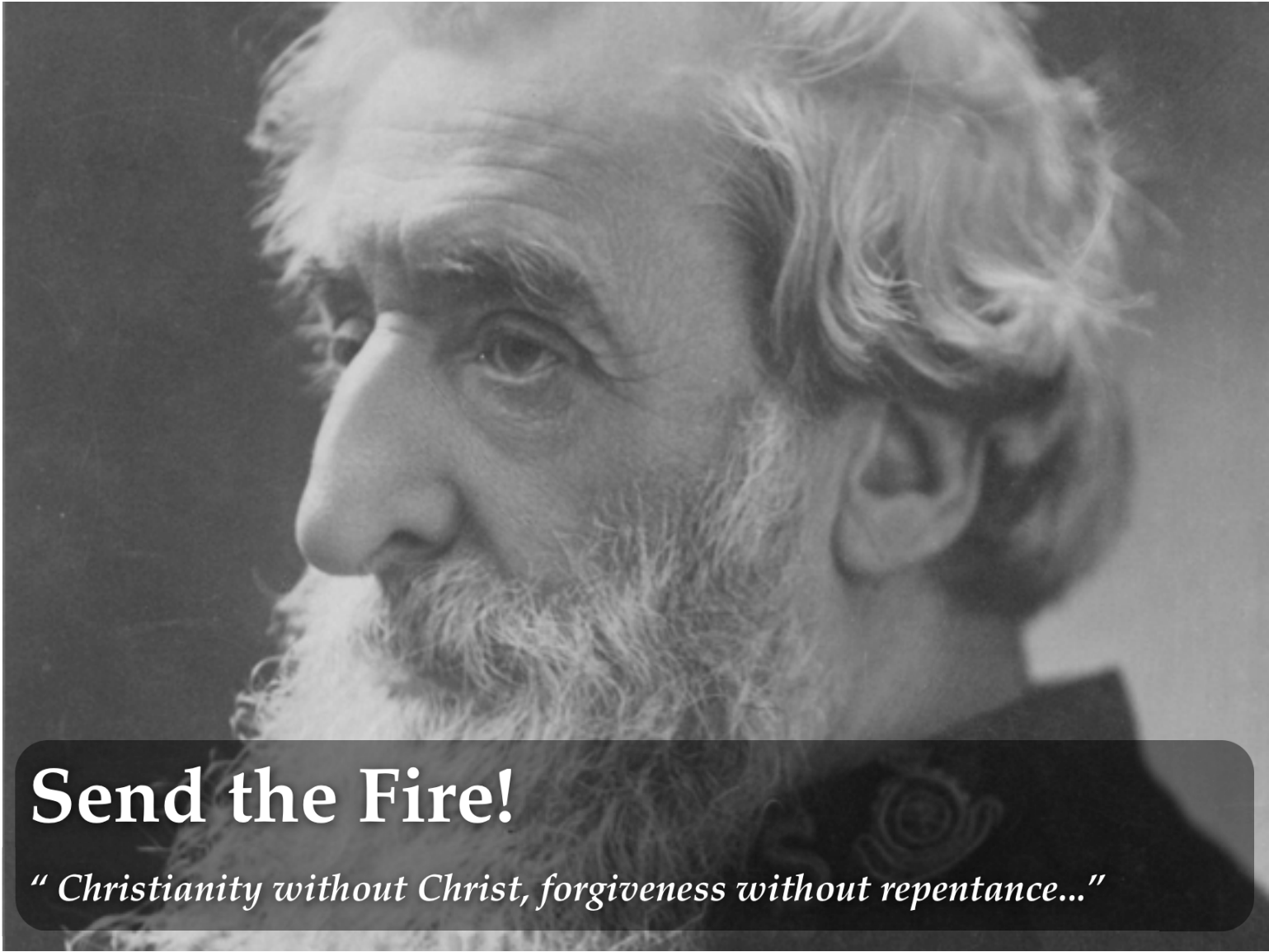
How much of a spirit of pride has appeared in you, which is in a peculiar manner the spirit and condemnation of the devil! How have some of you vaunted yourselves in your apparel! others in their riches! others in their knowledge and abilities! How has it galled you to see others above you! How much has it gone against the grain for you to give others their due honour! And how have you shown your pride by setting up your wills and in opposing others, and stirring up and promoting division, and a party spirit in public affairs.

How sensual have you been! Are there not some here that have debased themselves below the dignity of human nature, by wallowing in sensual filthiness, as swine in the mire, or as filthy vermin feeding with delight on rotten carrion? What in-

temperance have some of you been guilty of! How much of your precious time have you spent at the tavern, and in drinking companies, when you ought to have been at home seeking God and your salvation in your families and closets!

What stupidity and sottishness has attended your course of wickedness: which has appeared in your obstinacy under awakening dispensations of God's word and providence. And how have some of you backslidden after you have set out in religion, and quenched God's Spirit after he had been striving with you! And what unsteadiness, and slothfulness, and long misimprovement of God's strivings with you, have you been chargeable with!

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758). Was one of the most famous theologians and pastors in American History. Used of God in the Great Awakenings in America with Whitefield.



Send the Fire!

“Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance...”

Thou Christ of burning, cleansing flame,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
Thy blood bought gift today we claim,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
Look down and see this waiting host,
Give us the promised Holy Ghost;
We want another Pentecost,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!

God of Elijah, hear our cry:
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
To make us fit to live or die,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
To burn up every trace of sin,
To bring the light and glory in,
The revolution now begin,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!

'Tis fire we want, for fire we plead,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
The fire will meet our every need,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
For strength to ever do the right,
For grace to conquer in the fight,

For power to walk the world in white,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!

To make our weak hearts strong and brave,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
To live a dying world to save,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!
O see us on Thy altar lay
Our lives, our all, this very day;
To crown the offering now we pray,
Send the fire, send the fire, send the fire!

“In answer to your inquiry, I consider that the chief dangers which confront the coming century will be religion without the Holy Ghost, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, politics without God, and heaven without hell.”

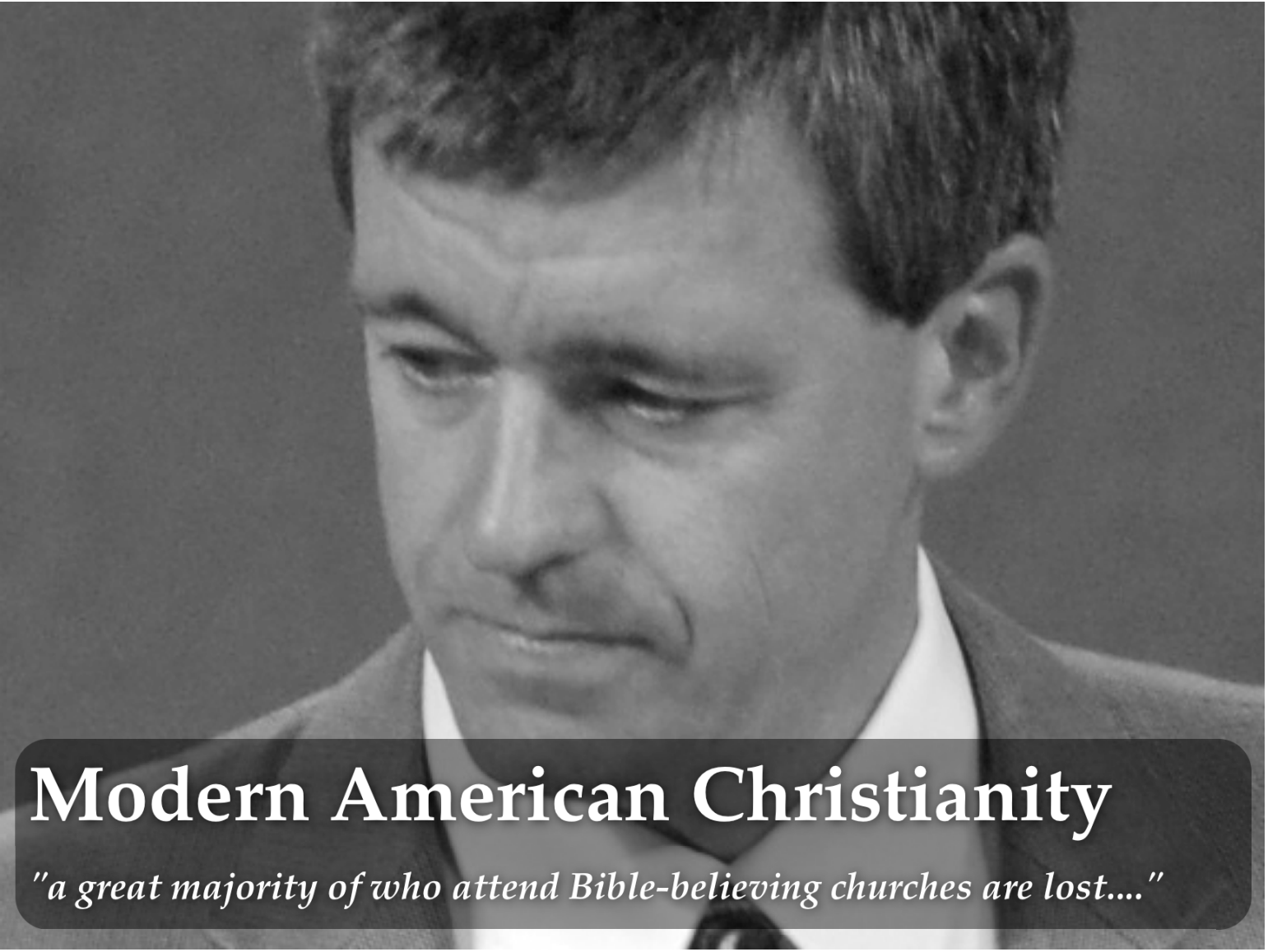
“‘Not called!’ did you say? Not heard the call, I think you should say. Put your ear down to the Bible, and hear Him bid you go and pull sinners out of the fire of sin. Put your ear down to the bur-

dened, agonized heart of humanity, and listen to its pitiful wail for help. Go stand by the gates of hell, and hear the damned entreat you to go to their father's house and bid their brothers and sisters and servants and masters not to come there. Then look Christ in the face -- whose mercy you have professed to obey -- and tell Him whether you will join heart and soul and body and circumstances in the march to publish His mercy to the world.

“The greatness of a man's power is the measure of his surrender.”

“Go straight for souls, and go for the worst.”

William Booth (1829-1912). A Methodist minister and then became the founder of the Salvation Army which expanded to reach over 50 countries in 12 years..



Modern American Christianity

"a great majority of who attend Bible-believing churches are lost...."

I want you to know that the greatest heresy in the American evangelical and protestant church is that, if you pray and ask Jesus Christ to come into your heart, He will definitely come in. You will not find that in any place in Scripture. You will not find that anywhere in Baptist history until about 50 years ago. What you need to know is that salvation is by faith and faith alone in Jesus Christ. And faith alone in Jesus Christ is preceded and followed by repentance, turning away from sin, a hatred for the things that God hates and a love for the things that God loves, and growing in holiness and a desire not to be like the world, and not to be like the great majority of American Christians, but to be like Jesus Christ! What superstition has overcome our denomination? Do you know what the Bible tells Christians to do? Examine yourself. Test yourself in light of Scripture to see if you are in the faith. Test yourself to see if you're a Christian.

We have rebelled against God, broken every law. It's not just an issue that you have sinned. The issue is you've never done anything but sinned. The

Bible says in the prophets that even our greatest works are like filthy rags before God. And because of that, you know what we deserve? The wrath of God. The holy hatred of God.

You say, "Now, wait a minute. God doesn't hate anybody. God is love." No, my friend. You need to understand something. Jesus Christ taught, the prophets taught, the apostles taught this -that apart from the grace of God revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord, the only thing left for you is the wrath, the fierce anger of God because of your rebellion and your sin.

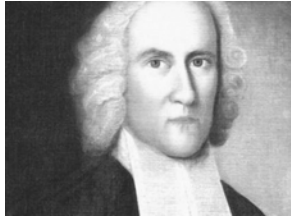
Pray for revival? You're going to have a youth meeting; you want God to move, but before you go there you watch programs on television that God absolutely despises. And then you wonder why the Holy Spirit hasn't fallen on a place and why you have to create false fire and false excitement. Because God's not in it. God is a holy God and the only way you and I could ever be reconciled to a holy God is through the death of God's own Son when He hung on that tree.

People say the cross is a sign of how much man is worth. That's not true. The cross is a sign of how depraved we really are, that it took the death of God's own Son. The only thing that could save a people like us was the death of God's own Son under the wrath of His own Father paying the price, rising again from the dead. Powerful to say, this is the Gospel of Jesus.

How is it that so many people today profess to have had an encounter with Jesus Christ, and, yet, they are not permanently changed? Billy Graham has said he believed that a great majority of people who attend Bible-believing churches are lost.

Paul Washer - Is the founder of HeartCry Missionary Society and is currently a itinerant speaker. For more information visit their website at: www.heartcrymissionary.com.

Jonathan Edwards



"Prayer is as natural an expression of faith as breathing is of life"

"Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will."

"The happiness of the creature consists in rejoicing in God, by which also God is magnified and exalted"

"To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here"

"The way to Heaven is ascending; we must be content to travel uphill, though it be hard and tiresome, and contrary to the natural bias of our flesh"

"Nothing sets a person so much out of the devils reach as humility."

"The bow of God's wrath is bent, and His arrows made ready upon the string. Justice points the arrow at your heart and strings the bow. It is nothing but the mere pleasure of God (and that of an angry God without any promise or obligation at all) that keeps the arrow one moment from being made drunk with your blood."

Paul Washer



"But just who is Jesus talking about? He says it Himself. He is talking to, "you who practice lawlessness", "you whom I never knew", "those who do not do the will of the Father in heaven.". The problem then is not prophesying, casting out demons and doing the signs and wonders in Jesus' name: the problem is sin."

"You must learn from the Scriptures that your life is less than a vapor."

"One of the greatest things a young Christian can do is to make a lifelong practice of reading the English Bible systematically from Genesis to Revelation over and over again."

"How is it that so many people today profess to have had an encounter with Jesus Christ, and, yet, they are not permanently changed?"

"When revival comes it will rip everything apart!"

"America is not gospel hardened but ignorant to the true gospel of Jesus Christ!"

Speaking of foreign missionaries: "Give him a bible, and put him in the town square, and let him preach until people either stone him or get converted"

John Newton



"If the Lord be with us, we have no cause of fear. His eye is upon us, His arm over us, His ear open to our prayer-- His grace sufficient, His promises unchangeable."

"This is faith: a renouncing of everything we are apt to call our own and relying wholly upon the blood, righteousness and intercession of Jesus"

"Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home"

"The Christian ministry is the worst of all trades, but the best of all professions"

"By one hour's intimate access to the throne of grace, where the Lord causes His glory to pass before the soul that seeks Him you may acquire more true spiritual knowledge and comfort than a day's or a week's converse with the best of men, or the most"

"So dress and conduct yourself so that people who have been in your company will not recall what you had on."

"Zeal without knowledge is like expedition to a man in the dark"

Leonard Ravenhill



"If weak in prayer we are weak everywhere."

"In the New Testament church it says they were all amazed - And now in our churches everybody wants to be amused."

"The men that have been the most heroic for God have had the greatest devotional lives."

"Entertainment is the devils substitute for joy, and when you get satisfaction out of that dumb thing, your joy will diminish."

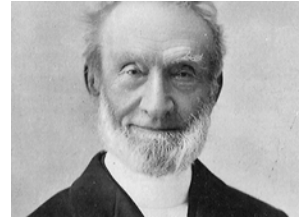
"Americas living on borrowed time. We've passed the safety line years ago. We're heading for hell as quick as any nation on earth. But if we saw the glory of God on Sunday in every church in America, we'd shake the country for God the next week."

"Revival is when God gets so sick and tired of being misrepresented that He shows Himself."

"We have to make up our minds if this Book is absolute or obsolete. It's either got the answer for our generation or forget it."

"The church has to rediscover two things. One, the majesty and the Holiness of God, and the other, the sinfulness of sin."

George Muller



"It is a common temptation of Satan to make us give up the reading of the Word and prayer when our enjoyment is gone; as if it were of no use to read the Scriptures when we do not enjoy them, and as if it were no use to pray when we have no spirit of prayer."

"A servant of God has but one Master."

"The less we read the Word of God, the less we desire to read it, and the less we pray, the less we desire to pray."

"I hope in God, I pray on, and look yet for the answer. They are not converted yet, but they will be."

"If honest of heart and uprightness before God were lacking or if I did not patiently wait on God for instruction, or if I preferred the counsel of my fellow-men to the declarations of the Word of God, I made great mistakes."

"There was a day when I died; died to self, my opinions, preferences, tastes and will; died to the world, its approval or censure; died to the approval or blame even of my brethren or friends; and since then I have studied only to show myself approved unto God."

"When I was on board the Mary, those particular parts of the Book of Jeremiah, which relate to the opposition he met with from false prophets, were deeply impressed upon my soul. Now I begin to see the wisdom of God in it; for five churches have already denied me, and some of the clergy, if possible, would oblige me to depart out of these coasts. But I rejoice in this opposition, it being a certain sign that a more effectual door will be opened, since there are so many adversaries." -George Whitefield